Fraud in the purchase of Diesel Oil

1627. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Government's reaction to the news-item captioned "Diesel Kharid ghotaley mein karoron ki dhokadhadi" which appeared in Punjab Kesari (New Delhi edition), dated 31st May, 2000;

(b) whether any investigation has been carried out in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of persons involved and the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to stop recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (e) Some customers who were obtaining petroleum products on concessional sales tax basis are alleged to have been diverting these products for the purposes other than the intended use thereby evading sales tax. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case in the matter on 23rd May 2000 at Gandhinagar, Gajarat.

Setting up of oil Refineries by LOC

1628. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oil refineries being set up by the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) in country;

(b) the places identified for the location of these refineries, States-wise; and

(c) the year by which these refineries would start commercial production?